

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 NASA-01 COME-00

CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 EB-08 FCC-01 INR-07

NSAE-00 OC-06 USIA-06 BIB-01 /059 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2259

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 4484

DEPT PASS OES, NEA/INS (DENNIS KUX), NASA (RICHARD BARNES),
USDOC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, ETEL, IN, US

SUBJECT: FURTHER COMMENTS ON INSAT PROCUREMENT

REF: NEW DELHI 243

1. EMBASSY IS AWARE OF ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE FOR LOCAL SUPPORT OF TWO POTENTIAL INSAT CONTRACTORS, FORD AEROSPACE AND HUGHES. PROFESSOR SATISH DHAWAN, SECRETARY FOR SPACE, AND HIS STAFF HAVE TRIED TO DISCOURAGE THE USE OF "REPS". DHAWAN SAYS THAT THIS IS A SOPHISTICATED TECHNICAL PROCUREMENT AND HE WANTS TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THE CONTRACTORS. ACCORDINGLY, FORD AEROSPACE WILL USE ESCORT-FORD, INDIA, A FORD COLLABORATOR ON TRACTORS TO PROVIDE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS, TRANSPORTATION, AND COMMUNICATIONS ON A COST BASIS. HUGHES HAS ASSIGNED MR. RAMJII, A HUGHES EMPLOYEE, TO SET UP A HUGHES OFFICE IN INDIA. HE IS AVAILABLE TO ISRO AND CAN HANDLE ALL HUGHES NEEDS.

2. HUGHES AND FORD PERSONNEL HAVE INDICATED THAT REFTEL WAS SENT TO THEM BY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND HAS PROVED USEFUL.

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3. A FORD TEAM MEMBER RECENTLY IN DELHI EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN THAT IF OFFICE OF MUNITIONS CONTROL MUST CLEAR INSAT PROCUREMENT, A POTENTIAL U.S. INSAT CONTRACTOR MIGHT LOSE OUT TO THE FRENCH OR GERMAN GROUP. INDIA MUST HAVE AN OPERATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE IN POSITION BEFORE THE END OF 1980 OR THEY MIGHT LOSE ORBIT POSITION AND FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS AS

EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS FROM CONVERSATIONS WITH ISRO PERSONNEL. THEREFORE ANY POTENTIAL DELAY MIGHT CAUSE ISRO TO TURN AWAY FROM U.S. SOURCES. DHAWAN TOLS SCICOUNS THAT NASA PERSONNEL INDICATED THAT THEY DIDNT BELIEVE THAT THERE WOULD BE ANY PROBLEM WITH THE INSAT PROCUREMENT.

4. IT IS NOT CLEAR YET WHAT EFFECT THE CHANGE IN GOVT IN NEW DELHI WILL HAVE ON THE INSAT PROCUREMENT. EMBASSY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) WOULD BE SENT OUT BY APRIL

1. EVEN THOUGH THE HIGHEST LEVEL CIVIL SERVANTS FROM SIX MINISTRIES HAVE BEEN WORKING TOGETHER THE NEW MINISTERS, JUST APPOINTED, ARE PROBABLY NOT AWARE OF THE PROCUREMENT SCHEDULE AND BUDGET REQUIRED FOR INSAT.

5. ACCORDING TO ISRO-DELHI, DHAWAN IS COMING TO NEW DELHI NEXT WEEK TO MEET THE NEW PRIME MINISTER. EMBASSY FORESEES THE POSSIBILITY OF A DELAY IN THE ISSUANCE OF THE RFP AND EVEN CANCELLATION OF THE PROJECT. THE CONCERNED MINISTRIES WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE TO CONDUCT A REVIEW OF INSAT FOR THE NEW MINISTERS
SCHNEIDER

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 30-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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